

Memorandum on Designation of Officers of the Department of Commerce To Act as Secretary of Commerce

October 3, 2002

Memorandum for the Secretary of Commerce

Subject: Designation of Officers of the Department of Commerce to Act as Secretary of Commerce

By the authority vested in me as President under the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, 5 U.S.C. 3345 et seq., I hereby order that:

Section 1. Order of Succession.

During any period when the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), the Deputy Secretary of Commerce (Deputy Secretary), and the officers designated by Executive Order 13242 of December 18, 2001, to perform the functions and duties of the office of Secretary have died, resigned, or otherwise become unable to perform the functions and duties of the office of Secretary, the Director, Tropical Storm Prediction Center, an officer of the Department of Commerce, shall perform the functions and duties of the office of Secretary, if he is eligible to act as Secretary under the provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, until such time as at least one of the officers mentioned above is able to perform the functions and duties of the office of Secretary.

Sec. 2. Exceptions.

- (a) No individual who is serving as Director, Tropical Storm Prediction Center in an acting capacity shall, by virtue of so serving, act as Secretary pursuant to this memorandum.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this memorandum, the President retains discretion, to the extent permitted by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, 5 U.S.C. 3345–3349d, to depart from this order in designating an acting Secretary.

Sec. 3. Publication.

The Secretary of Commerce is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 4. An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Remarks at a Reception for Gubernatorial Candidate Mitt Romney in Boston, Massachusetts

October 4, 2002

The President. Thank you all very much. Thank you all. Glad I came.

Audience member. We are, too.

The President. Thanks for coming. “Governor,” thanks for those kind, kind remarks. I’m proud to be—[*applause*]. I strongly stand with Mitt Romney because I believe he is the best person for the job of Governor of Massachusetts.

I say that I know that because I know his values. He’s got his priorities straight: his faith, his family, and his State. And he’s not going to waver from those priorities. They’re etched in his heart.

He’s got a record. He’s done things in life. He started his own businesses. He’s an entrepreneur. He knows how to create jobs at a time when you need somebody in Massachusetts who knows job creation.

He knows how to take a struggling organization and turn it around. He’s done that recently. He’s not one of these talkers that you find in the political arena. He’s a doer. Just ask the folks—just ask the folks who were wondering whether or not the Olympics were going to go bankrupt. Ask them what happened when Mitt Romney showed up and brought some managerial skills and some vision and the ability to set priorities and the know-how how to set budgets and turned that organization around and made sure the Olympics in Salt Lake City were not only successful but profitable. It’s the same kind of attitude you need here in your State budget in Massachusetts.

No, you’ve got the right man for the job here. You’ve got the right person for the job. And I want to thank you for backing him.

And I’m real proud of his wife, Ann. She’ll be a great first lady for Massachusetts. She’s a dedicated mom. She’s looking forward to working hard with Mitt to do everything they